Claims

[c1] 1.A method for constructing a population of asset allocation alternatives, comprising the steps of:
providing investment performance data for a plurality of securities;
grouping these securities on the basis of this performance data into one of a plurality of market sectors;
determining a series of periodic investment returns of each of the securities;
generating a series of the average of periodic investment returns for the population of securities within each of the plurality of market sectors;
determining a minimum allocation percentage increment for each of the market sectors;
determining allocation alternatives from the application of multiples of this minimum allocation percentage increment for each of the market sectors;
creating a list of the all possible allocation alternatives that can be determined from the application of all multiples of this minimum allocation percentage increment for all determined market sectors;
calculating a series of weighted-average periodic returns for each of the allocation alternatives; and

calculating analysis-period measures of investment performance for the population of all possible allocation alternatives and the series of weighted-average periodic returns.

[c2] 2.The method of Claim 1, wherein the population of allocation alternatives is comprised of populations of all possible allocation alternatives for a plurality of analysis periods made from a series of weighted periodic returns.

[c3] 3.The method of Claim 1, wherein the number of market sectors is five.

[c4] 4.The method of Claim 1, wherein the plurality of securities includes the type known as book-valued collective investment funds.

[c5] 5.The method of Claim 1, wherein the series of analysis-period investment performance measures area series of five-year analysis periods initiated each quarter over the past forty years.

[c6] 6.The method of Claim 1, wherein the market sector allocations are determined in minimum allocation percentage increments of 5 percent.

[c7] 7.The method of Claim 1, wherein a total of 10,626 allocation alternatives are provided as the population of all

possible allocation alternatives for each analysis period.

[c8] 8.A method of selection and evaluation of investment portfolio asset allocation strategies, comprising the steps of:
acquiring performance data for a population of similar investments;
calculating the average of these periodic returns and a measurement of the variance of the periodic returns around this average for each investment;
grouping the investments into categories of investments having uniquely similar levels and patterns of investment risk, known as asset classes;
calculating a series of average of the periodic returns for the population of securities within each asset class;
constructing a set of all possible asset allocation strategies from the combination of all multiples of the minimum allocation percentage increment from each asset class;
calculating a series of periodic returns generated by each allocation alternative by multiplying the asset-class average periodic return by the percent of portfolio assets allocated to that asset class for each allocation alternative;
calculating the performance statistics for each allocation alternative for each analysis- period;

calculating population-comparison statistics for each analysis- period;
generating categories of allocation alternatives within each analysis-period population based on similar population-comparison statistics; and
standardizing population-comparison statistics by recalculating the statistics to a standard scale in terms of deviation of the measure from a population average and comparing the statistics across a time-series of analysis-period populations.

[c9] 9.The method of Claim 8, wherein the performance data is publicly-traded stocks and bonds.

[c10] 10.The method of Claim 8, wherein the performance data is mutual funds, variable annuities and other book-valued collective investment funds.

[c11] 11.The method of Claim 8, wherein the performance data acquired is a set of calculated investment returns for a contiguous set of time periods for each investment.

[c12] 12.The method of Claim 8, wherein an analysis-period population is comprised of 10,626 allocation alternatives.

[c13] 13.The method of Claim 8, wherein the calculation of the average of the periodic returns for each asset class is by

arithmetic average.

[c14] 14.The method of Claim 8, wherein the calculation of the average of the periodic returns for each asset class by average weighted by asset size.

[c15] 15.The method of Claim 8, wherein the calculation of the average of the periodic returns for each asset class by average weighted by market value.

[c16] 16.The method of Claim 8, wherein the population-comparison statistics include average return and periodic returns variance.

[c17] 17.The method of Claim 8, wherein the population-comparison statistics include differential return and the average and variance of average returns and returns variance for the population of categories of that population.